

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

February 26, 2002

MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Investigation Into the Rates of Lincolnvile
Telephone Company Pursuant to 35-A
M.R.S.A. § 7101-B

Docket No. 98-896

ORDER APPROVING
AMENDMENT TO STIPULATION

MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Investigation Into the Rates of Tidewater
Telecom Pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. §
7101-B

Docket No. 98-907

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

In this Order, we approve an "Amendment to Stipulations" that amends stipulations previously approved in the above two captioned cases. Under both of the existing stipulations, Lincolnvile and Tidewater, respectively, had agreed to "stay-out" period during which they would not file a rate case with the Commission. These stay-outs resolved the pending rate cases for each company.

Pursuant to discussions between the parties and the Commission staff, it appeared that the stay-out periods were calculated incorrectly, as described in the Amendment. The parties have agreed to amend the two stipulations, with the effect that both companies may file rate cases immediately. We find that the Amendment is reasonable. The parties have agreed that "a good faith effort will be made to conclude the case (sic) by July 1, 2002." While the Commission will make such an effort, it makes no commitment the cases will be concluded by the date, particularly if the cases go to hearing.

Accordingly, we

A P P R O V E

the Amendment to Stipulation attached hereto.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 26th day of February, 2002.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Raymond J. Robichaud
Assistant Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
 Nugent
 Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within **21** days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.